

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A An isolated cell having comprising a single nucleus, which cell possesses at least one pluripotential characteristic, which characteristic includes the ability to differentiate into at least two selected tissue types, which cell comprises either (i) at least part of the cytoplasm derived from an embryonal teratocarcinoma carcinoma cell; or (ii) a cytoplasm from an embryonal teratocarcinoma carcinoma cell, and which cell has its nucleus obtained from a differentiated somatic cell and only contains the a genome derived only from the differentiated somatic cell.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A The cell according to Claim 1 characterised characterized in that said pluripotential characteristic includes the ability of said cell to proliferate in culture in an undifferentiated state.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A The cell according to Claim 2 characterised characterized in that said cell has the capacity to proliferate in continuous culture in an undifferentiated state for at least six months and ideally 12 months.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A The cell according to Claims 1 characterised characterized in that said pluripotential characteristic includes the expression of at least one selected marker.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A The cell according to Claim 4 characterised characterized in that said pluripotential characteristic is expression of Oct4.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) A The cell according to Claim 4 characterised characterized in that said selected marker is a cell surface marker.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) A The cell according to Claim 6 characterised characterized in that said cell surface marker is selected from the group including: SSEA-1

(-); and/or SSEA-3 (+); and/or SSEA-4 (+); and/or TRA-1-60 (+); and/or TRA-1-81 (+); and/or alkaline phosphatase (+).

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) A The cell according to Claim 1 characterised characterized in that said pluripotential characteristic includes the presence of telomerase activity.

Claim 9. (Cancelled)

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A The cell according to Claim 1 characterised characterized in that said pluripotential characteristic includes the ability to induce tumours when introduced into an animal.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) A cell-line consisting of cells according to Claim 1.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A The cell-line according to Claim 11 characterised characterized in that said cell-line is of human origin.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of a cytoplasmic part for use in the production of a cell according to Claim 1 comprising;

- (i) providing at least one embryonal teratocarcinoma carcinoma cell;
- (ii) separating at least part of the cytoplasm from the nucleus of said cell;
- (iii) isolating said cytoplasmic part; and, optionally
- (iv) storing said isolated cytoplasmic part under suitable storage conditions.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A The method according to Claim 13 characterised characterized in that said cytoplasmic part is a cytoplasm.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a cell according to Claim 1 comprising:

- (i) combining at least one embryonal ~~teratocarcinoma~~ carcinoma cell with at least one differentiated somatic cell;
- (ii) removing the embryonal ~~teratocarcinoma~~ carcinoma nucleus from said combined cell;
- (iii) culturing said cell under conditions conducive to proliferation and expansion of said cell; and, optionally
- (iv) storing said cell culture under suitable conditions.

Claim 16. (Currently Amended) A method for combining at least part of the cytoplasm of an embryonal ~~teratocarcinoma~~ carcinoma cell with a somatic cell comprising:

- (i) providing at least part of the cytoplasm of an embryonal ~~teratocarcinoma~~ carcinoma cell;
- (ii) combining said cytoplasmic part with at least one differentiated somatic cell to form a cell that only contains the a genome derived only from the somatic cell;
- (iii) growing said combined cell in culture; and optionally
- (iv) storing said combined cell under suitable storage conditions.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended) A The method according to Claim 16 characterised characterized in that said cytoplasmic part is provided as a cytoplasm.

Claim 18. (Currently Amended) A The method according to Claim 17 ~~16~~ characterised characterized in that said cytoplasm is combined with said somatic cell via cytoplasm / or somatic cell fusion.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) A The method according to Claim 16 characterised characterized in that said embryonal carcinoma cell and somatic cell are of human origin.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) A cell culture comprising at least one cell according to Claim 1.

Claim 21. (Withdrawn) A method for inducing differentiation of at least one cell according to Claim 1 comprising:

- (i) providing a cell according to Claim 1;
- (ii) culturing said cell under conditions conducive to the differentiation of said cell into at least one tissue; and optionally
- (iii) storing of said differentiated tissue prior to use under suitable storage conditions.

Claim 22. (Withdrawn) A method of Claim 21 characterised in that said method provides a tissue type selected from at least one of the following; neural, smooth muscle, striated muscle, cardiac muscle, bone, cartilage, liver, kidney, respiratory epithelium, haematopoietic cells, spleen, skin, stomach, intestine.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) At least one isolated tissue type or isolated organ comprising at least one cell according to Claim 1.

Claim 24. (Previously Presented) A therapeutic composition comprising at least one cell according to Claim 1 including a suitable excipient, diluent or carrier.

Claim 25. (Currently Amended) A The therapeutic composition according to Claim 24 characterised characterized in that said therapeutic composition is provided for use in tissue transplantation.

Claim 26. (Withdrawn) A method to treat conditions or diseases requiring transplantation of tissue comprising:

- (i) providing at least one tissue type or organ according to Claim 23;
- (ii) surgically introducing said tissue or organ into a patient to be treated; and
- (iii) treating said patient under conditions which are conducive to the acceptance of said transplanted tissue by said patient.

Claim 27. (Previously Presented) A kit comprising at least one cell according to Claim 1; instructions with respect to maintenance of said cell in culture; and, optionally, factors required to induce differentiation of said cell to at least one desired tissue type or organ.

Claim 28. (Currently Amended) A The method according to Claim 17 ~~characterised~~ characterized in that said cytoplasm is combined with said somatic cell via cytoplasm + ~~or~~ somatic cell fusion.